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EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
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November 15, 2004

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (MSA)
(EL DORADO, PLACER AND SACRAMENTO COUNTIES)

The unemployment rate in the Sacramento MSA was 4.8 percent in October 2004, down from a revised 5.0 percent in September 2004, and below the year-ago estimate of 5.5 percent. This compares with an unadjusted unemployment rate of 5.6 percent for California and 5.1 percent for the nation during the same period. The unemployment rate was 4.2 percent in El Dorado County, 4.0 percent in Placer County and 5.1 percent in Sacramento County.

The total number of wage and salary jobs in the Sacramento MSA increased from 757,300 in September to 760,600 in October 2004, a gain of 3,300 jobs that was mostly seasonal. Although state jobs declined slightly, government payrolls rose by 2,600 jobs due to expansion in local education. Retail trade hiring accounted for a gain of 900 jobs in trade, transportation and utilities. Professional and business services expanded by 600 jobs, educational and health services were up by 500 jobs, leisure and hospitality by 200 jobs and other services added 100 jobs during the month. Offsetting those gains, construction declined by 800 jobs, farm by 500 jobs, financial activities by 200 jobs and manufacturing slipped by 100 jobs. Employment in natural resources and mining and the information industry was unchanged.

Between October 2003 and October 2004, total wage and salary employment was up by 1,300 jobs, an 0.2 percent increase, with private sector gains continuing to offset government losses. Construction gained 4,500 jobs, followed by professional and business services, which added 2,800 jobs. Farm increased by 400 jobs, other service jobs were up by 200 jobs, while trade, transportation, and utilities and the leisure and hospitality industries each added 100 jobs. Offsetting those gains, government payrolls declined by 4,600 jobs, information by 900 jobs, financial activities by 700 jobs, and manufacturing by 400 jobs. Educational and health services jobs were off by 200, while employment levels were unchanged in natural resources and mining.